

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Jeff Fortenberry today testified before the House Transportation Committee, calling on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to reassess and reform its Missouri River flood control practices in light of the devastating 2011 Missouri River flooding.

"Nebraska and other Missouri River Basin states were hit hard by this year's flooding," Fortenberry said. "Families' lives were turned upside down. Nebraskans lost homes, farms, and businesses, communities suffered significant damage to key infrastructure, and our state's two nuclear power facilities were surrounded by floodwaters.

"Mr. Chairman, it was surreal seeing a boat tied to a nuclear plant," Fortenberry added. "It is necessary that we now thoroughly examine how existing river management policies played a role in the flooding and its dramatic impacts while determining new strategies for flood control moving forward."

Fortenberry, whose First Congressional District includes 11 Nebraska counties along the Missouri River, has cosponsored legislation, H.R. 2942, to direct the Chief of the Army Corps of Engineers to revise Missouri River management policies to ensure greater storage capacity and prevent serious downstream flooding. In order to assist restoration of flood-damaged infrastructure, Fortenberry has also introduced H.R. 3347, which would exempt any road, highway, or bridge damaged by a natural disaster from duplicative environmental document reviews if the road, highway, or bridge is reconstructed in the same location.

[Click here](#) to view Fortenberry's hearing testimony.

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